

Washington, DC - Congresswoman Linda Sánchez (CA-39) spoke last night to a crowd of Cerritos College students during the 19th Annual Cerritos College Women's History Month Celebration. Sánchez was introduced by the President of Cerritos College, Dr. Noelia Vela, and spoke about her role as a woman in U.S. House of Representatives.

"As a woman in Congress, I'm often asked what it's like to work in the halls of power of our nation's Capitol. During my first term in Congress, and now beginning my second, I've experienced a lot that showed me how far women have come as leaders and legislators despite the challenges we face," said Congresswoman Linda Sánchez.

After describing some of the challenges and successes of her career, Congresswoman Sánchez went on to discuss some of the issues that today's young women, like those in her audience, could expect to face. Sanchez also addressed the issue of domestic violence, noting that it was "Stop Violence Against Women Week," and urged young women to support each other.

"There is only so much we can do in the government. Most of the strength needs to come from other women in the community. They in turn must draw their inspiration from the strength and experiences of women who are survivors of violence," continued Sánchez.

Sánchez did not limit her comments to issues that the young women were affected by now. She asked them to look down the road and educate themselves on Social Security, because current college students would be the generation that had to live with the consequences of bad decisions made today.

"The answer is not putting all of our hopes in risky, private accounts that don't guarantee increased rewards. The only things that they guarantee are cuts in benefits and trillions of dollars of additional debt to burden future generations," continued Sánchez.

The Congresswoman finished her speech by thanking the young women in the audience for the influence they had on her.

When I think of how you will change the world once you put your minds and hearts into it, I am inspired. So I want to say to all of you, "Thank you!" I promise that I will keep working for you and all women in Washington," concluded Sánchez.